

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Final Office Action mailed November 21, 2006. By this Amendment, claims 7, 11, 20-22, 24, 26, 28, 30-32, 38-40, 42, 44, and 46 are amended, and claims 1-6, 10, 13, 18-19, 34-36, and 45 are canceled. For any fees that are deemed necessary following submittal of this Amendment, or any refund that may be due, the undersigned hereby authorizes such fees to be charged or refunds to be credited to our deposit account, Deposit Account No. 061910.

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 7-9, 20-30, 39, 40, 44 and 46. In order to obtain allowance on allowable claims at the earliest possible date, Applicant has amended the claims above to claim the subject matter the Examiner indicated as allowable. Specifically, claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of previous claims 6, 5, 2, and 1, claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of previous claims 19, 18, 13, 10, and 1, claims 24, 26, 28, 39, and 40 have each been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of previous claim 1, and claims 44 and 46 have each been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of previous claims 6, 5, 2, and 1. Further, several dependent claims have been amended to depend from one of these rewritten independent claims and the withdrawn claims have been cancelled. Accordingly, it is believed this application is now in condition for allowance and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that Applicant believes previous claim 1 was patentably distinct over the Mileos et al. reference cited by the Examiner, and expressly reserves the right to pursue the originally filed claims in one or more continuation applications.

If Examiner believes that prosecution of the present application can be advanced by a telephonic interview, the undersigned would welcome a call at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees under or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1910.

Dated: Feb. 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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